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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application of: Schwabe and Unemori

Serial No.: Continued Prosecution Application of Group Art Unit: 1654  
Application Serial No. 09/041,491  
Filed on March 12, 1998

Examiner: Gupta, A.

Filed: Herewith Attorney Docket No.:  
7842-047-999

For: RELAXIN-LIKE FACTOR AND METHODS  
AND USES THEREOF

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In connection with the request for Continued Prosecution Application filed herewith and further to the Office Action mailed March 4, 1999, Applicants request entry and consideration of the following amendments and remarks prior to examination.

**AMENDMENT**

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend Claims 4, 15 and 16 to read as follows:

4. (three times amended) A method of treating a mammal for a condition susceptible to treatment with relaxin comprising administering to a mammal in need thereof a therapeutically effective amount of relaxin like factor comprising an A chain and a B chain, said A chain having the amino acid sequence:

Ala-Ala-Ala-Thr-Asn-Pro-Ala-Arg-Tyr-Cys-Cys-Leu-Ser-Gly-Cys-Thr-Gln-Gln-Asp-Leu-Leu-Thr-Leu-Cys-Pro-Tyr (SEQ ID NO:3)  
or said amino acid sequence (SEQ ID NO:3) truncated by up to about 6 amino acids from the N-terminus and/or by up to 6 amino acids from the C-terminus;